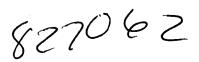
## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE



An apparatus and method for intraluminal delivery and deployment of an expandable prosthesis at a site within a body canal is provided. The apparatus comprises an elongated sleeve and an outer shaft disposed within the elongated sleeve and movable relative to the sleeve. A securing member is disposed on a distal area of the outer shaft. The expandable prosthesis is housed within a distal area of the elongated sleeve, and a distal area of the prosthesis is secured to the outer shaft by the securing member. The stent is deployed by displacing the sleeve in a proximal direction relative to the outer shaft to expose the stent and by releasing the stent from the securing member. If necessary, the stent can be repositioned prior to releasing the stent from the securing member.